GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2584
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
T.V. COVERAGE IN TRIBAL AREAS
Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to extend good quality TV coverage in all the tribal and inaccessible areas of the country;

(b) the details of areas still left out of TV coverage;

(c) whether the quality of the TV telecast is quite poor in several areas of the country;

(d) if so, whether the Government has received any complaint/ representations in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(f) the action taken by the Government to improve the quality of TV telecasting in these areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b) Doordarshan has been assigning priority to provision of TV coverage in tribal and inaccessible areas of the country in the various expansion plans formulated from time to time. In terrestrial mode, TV coverage is estimated to be available to about 91% population, including a large segment of population in tribal and inaccessible areas. The areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission, along with rest of the country, have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service, signals of which can be received all over the country (except A&N Islands). Project for DTH service (in C-Band) in A&N Islands is under implementation. For expansion and improvement of terrestrial coverage, 155 transmitter projects in various parts of the country are presently under implementation.

(c) to (f) Performance of TV transmitters in Doordarshan network is satisfactory, though complaints of malfunctioning of some transmitters are received from time to time. No centralized data is maintained in this regard. All efforts are made by Doordarshan to attend to the complaints promptly. However, in the case of VLPTs, which are unmanned installations, it takes some time to attend to the complaints, as maintenance staff has to be sent from the designated Maintenance Centre.